

MILLERS FOR A CENTURY

Timothy, Jacob, and Elmore T. Ide, Three Generations, Have Conducted Milling Business For 100 Years.

Timothy Ide Purchased Small Mill at Passumpsic, Dec. 22, 1813.—Business Taken up by Son and Developed from Small Custom Mill to a Large Grinding and Distributing Industry—Three Mills Destroyed by Fire—Business Removed to St. Johnsbury where Large Tract of Land was Developed for Manufacturing and Building Purposes—After 53 Years Connection with the Business E. T. Ide Still Actively Connected with Conduct of the Business.

One hundred years ago next Monday Timothy Ide purchased the grist mill at Passumpsic, conducted the business until his death when it was purchased by his son, Jacob Ide, and later purchased by his son, Elmore T. Ide, who for 53 years has been the manager of the business. The close of a century's ownership finds Elmore T. Ide 74 years old but still at his desk daily giving the business the benefit of his long and successful experience. The thoroughly

There were no "elevators" in that mill so the grain was lifted into the hoppers on the upper floor and the flour and meal discharged into a trough in the basement where it was shoveled into bags and brought up on the miller's back and reloaded on the back of the customer's horse behind the saddle. The miller's compensation was regulated by law: one sixteenth of the grain went to the miller, and the miller measured his own "toll"—hence the dif-

Under the Ide Brothers
Meantime the younger brother, Horace K. Ide had returned from the war with a very honorable record as an officer in the First Vermont Cavalry with the rank of Brevet Major; but with no business training. It was decided to try developing the mill business in up-to-date methods and push things. E. T. Ide spent several months in the west, working as millwright and miller thus taking his "degree" as expert

old Mill Pond (three acres) across the railroad near the station and filled the pond, building Bay street and on the railroad, had erected the building now used as elevator, also coal pockets. The office and business was soon moved to Bay street, the present location.

In December 1904 the pulp mill at Passumpsic again took fire and again in the morning the water pow-

bor from the time it is unloaded from the cars until it is reloaded into the cars as meal. The side track will hold six cars and platforms are so arranged that any or all can be unloaded at the same time. The cars are moved on the siding by means of a power car puller. The bulk grain is unloaded with a power shovel, elevated into the storage bins, from which it is drawn into



The Passumpsic Mill in 1865

er was idle. As a mill was imperative to the business the mill at Lyndon was purchased, overhauled, and in May was ready for business, when a pulp mill, still adjoining, took fire from an old building that was fired by sparks from a locomotive and again there was no mill and only small insurance. After a hard fought law suit, the Railroad Company was obliged to settle for the

the mill, where it is ground, bolted, and sacked. The principal business nowadays is keeping a complete line of all kinds of grain, feeds and flour on hand, which is received in straight car-loads, and is here loaded out in mixed cars of any assortment, also a large retail business is done. The Coal Business
The coal branch of the business



The Passumpsic Mill in 1884

property destroyed, but again there was no mill.

Now appeared a new feature in the situation. Where should the new mill be located? Of two good water-powers, which would best suit the needs of the company? It soon appeared that the problem was larger than anticipated. The St. Johnsbury

is handled at the same plant, the coal pockets, with a storage capacity of 1200 tons being situated on the side track so that the cars are unloaded from the trestle into the bins below by simply opening the doors and allowing the coal to run out. E. T. & H. K. Ide are also oper-



The Bradford Mill

bury Electric Company showed an interest in the Passumpsic power and the village of Lyndonville in the other. Family pride insisted on rebuilding on the old site at Passumpsic so a prohibitive price of \$15,000 was named for the mill site and was promptly accepted. Times had surely changed. In 1813 this site with the "mill and mill house" were bought for \$1200.

Included in the deed with the Electric Company was a contract to furnish the Ide 100 horse power delivered by electricity to the new mill to be located in St. Johnsbury. The Lyndon site was sold to the village of Lyndonville on favorable terms.

The St. Johnsbury Mill
The new mill was erected on Bay street beside the elevator, at the junction of the Boston and Maine, St. Johnsbury and Lake Champlain and Maine Central railroads. It is four stories high, built of cement blocks, on pile foundation, a so-called fire proof structure. The power is obtained from the old water power three miles distant through seven electric motors of 132 horse power. The machinery and equipment are all of modern construction, and consist in part of three roller mills, each three pair high, three attrition mills and corn cracker, eight grain elevators, bolting chests, magnetic separator, dust collectors, automatic power shovel for unloading grain from cars, Fairbanks automatic receiving scale, etc.

The plant has a capacity for storage of 30,000 bushels of bulk grain and 1000 tons of sacked feed and flour. The mill has the capacity for grinding 3000 bushels of grain per day. (Capacity of mill in 1813, 100 bushels.)
With the up-to-date machinery and convenient arrangement of the different buildings the grain is handled with the minimum amount of la-

ating a smart electric mill at Bradford, doing a good business, both wholesale and retail, a small water power mill at South Newbury and a branch store at Passumpsic.

The officers are Elmore T. Ide, president; William A. Ide, vice president; George M. Gray, secretary.

The president has been at the head of the business over 53 years and is still at his desk every day. Mr. Gray, the secretary, is a son-in-law of Mr. Ide and has been with the concern some 25 years. The vice president, William A. Ide, has been on duty 13 years.

Naturally the more active details of the business have to be assumed by these younger men. The two millers, George Hall and Frank O. Lapoint, learned the trade in the old mill at Passumpsic and have been with the Ide practically all their working lives.

WELLS RIVER

Miss Tilly John is home from North Ryegate for the holiday vacation.

Mrs. Grace Davis, who has been ill at Cottage hospital, has recovered sufficiently to be at home.

Mrs. Clifford of North Haverhill was the guest of Mrs. J. A. George over night Wednesday and attended W. R. C. meeting.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Farwell, who has been ill over a week, has typhoid fever.

Walter Martel and family have moved to Lowell, Mass.

Mrs. Goodwin was at Horse Meadow Thursday to attend the D. A. R. meeting which was held with Miss Martha Clough.

Mrs. Deming has closed her millinery rooms and returned to her home in Lisbon.

Mrs. Samuel Philbrook of North Haverhill was the guest of Mrs. Good-

win Tuesday.
Mr. and Mrs. Cochran received word Saturday of the death of their aged aunt Mrs. Dickey, in Ryegate last Friday afternoon. The house where she was stopping was burned and she perished in the flames.

WALDEN

David Corson, who had a shock last Wednesday is slowly improving and hopes are entertained of his complete recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Kingsbury and son Lyle visited friends in Danville Saturday.

Madam Rock is very poorly again. Dr. Warren of Cabot is attending her.

Ed. Buck of Greensboro Bend was in town last week calling on friends. Mrs. Orrin Kittredge has returned after spending some weeks at her old home in Maine.

The Ladies' Mite society will be

entertained by Mrs. Taylor at the parsonage this week on Thursday afternoon.

Christmas exercises will be held in the church here Wednesday evening, Dec. 24. Come and bring the children.

Orvis Shaw of Cabot and Mr. Greenwood of Warren were visitors at F. M. Shaw's last week.

The 25 cent piece was made famous by the American Liver Tablets, the perfect laxative.

Guarding Against Croup

The best safeguard against croup is a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar Compound in the house. P. H. Ginn, Middleton, Ga., writes: "My children are very susceptible to croup, easily catch cold. I give them Foley's Honey and Tar Compound and in every instance they get prompt relief and are soon cured. We keep it at home and prevent croup." C. C. Bingham, Adv.

LOUGEE & SMYTHE

We are showing our usual sensible and dependable

Christmas Gifts

We are specializing on Irish Linen Handkerchiefs bought direct from Belfast.

All linen hemstitched, 5, 10, 12½, 17, 25c
Fine hand embroidered hdkfs, 25 and 50c ea.
Nice lot Children's hdkfs. in boxes, 15c box
A splendid job in Fancy Ribbons, 12½, 19, 25c yd.
Hundreds of Fancy Aprons, 10, 25, 50, 75c and \$1.00 ea.

Silk Scarfs, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, 1.75, 2.00, 3.00 ea.
Gloves make a splendid gift for a lady or miss \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50 up to a fur lined at \$4.50 pr.

A wonderful stock of Hand Bags, leather and mesh 50c to \$10 ea.

Capps genuine Indian blankets, fast colors, all wool, \$7.50 ea.

Linen Table Cloths, round and square, Doilies, Tray Cloths, etc.

Ladies Muslin Corset Covers and Gowns in Christmas Boxes

Silks for Fancy Work, Waists and Dresses
Thousands of Neckties, Jabots and Scarfs

Umbrellas, 98c to \$4.00 ea.

Cotton and Silk Shirt Waists

Beautiful shades in Messaline and Taffeta Silk Petticoats

Ladies' Fur Caps. Kimonas Underwear

Ladies' Suit cases and Bags

Flannelette Robes. Bath Robes with Slippers

Best of all Fur Coats, Muffs and Scarfs

Big stock of Children's Fur Sets, \$1.50 to \$12.50 set

Lougee & Smythe



The Light for Aging Eyes

Good eyesight should be protected above all things. A harsh or a flickering light strains the eyes. The soft mellow glow of the

Rayo Lamp

is the best light for reading, sewing or whenever the eyes must be used at night.

The RAYO Lamp is constructed on scientific principles. It gives the best and steadiest light. It is made of solid brass—nickel-plated. Lighted without removing chimney or shade. Easy to clean and rewick. A style for every purpose.

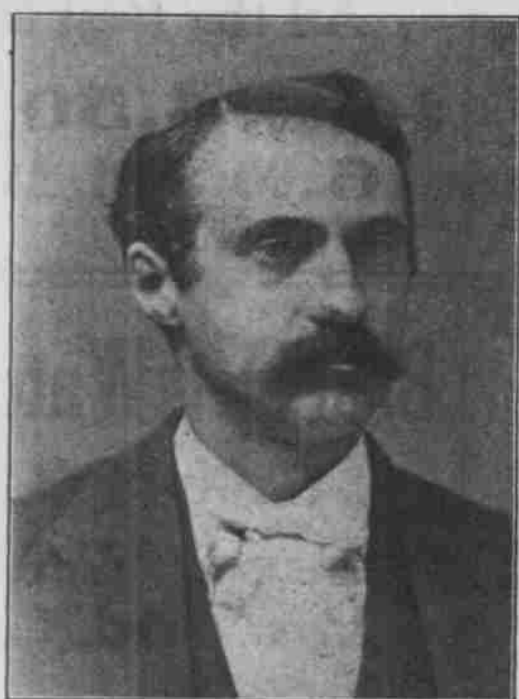
Ask your dealer.



STANDARD OIL COMPANY
New York Albany Buffalo Boston



Elmore T. Ide, for 53 Years at Head of the Ide Business and Still in The Harness



The Late H. K. Ide

modern mill of E. T. & H. K. Ide is a creditable monument for a century's effort but Mr. Ide has still wider success to his credit. He has built up a large coal business, has developed a tract of three acres of apparently worthless land into an important manufacturing and building center. He is also president of the Merchants National Bank, one of the village's strong financial institutions. Not only can Mr. Ide look back upon the accomplishments of over half a century but he has associated with him a son and son-in-law, which assures a much longer term of successful business in the name of the Ide family.

From Elmore T. Ide The Caledonian has secured the following modest but interesting account of the century's struggles and development in the milling business.

The Beginning in 1813

On Dec. 22, 1813, Timothy Ide sold his farm in Lyndon and purchased the grist mill at Passumpsic and became, if not the original "Honest Miller," a good representative of that ancient and honorable calling, and was thus esteemed to the end of his life in 1839.

The mill at that time was a primitive affair, built about 1789. The

scuity of retaining the full title of Honest Miller.

Practically no cash was used in the business in those days—grain was legal tender for "store bills" for the year if settled before New Year's. The only way to turn the toll into cash was to grind the wheat into flour and feed the coarser grain to hogs. Then in the winter the old double sleighs were loaded with flour and frozen pork and hauled to Portland through the Crawford Notch in the White Mountains.

Timothy Ide reared 12 children and left to them a good name, and very little of worldly goods, excepting the mill, so at his death his son, Jacob, became the miller.

Beginning Improvements

He soon developed the "progressive" idea and made many improvements, putting in the first elevator and the first burr stones used in this section and many other improvements. But not being strong he hired millers and devoted most of his time to other pursuits, being the railroad station agent, postmaster, etc.

His eldest son, Elmore Timothy, was always told that he was to inherit his grandfather's occupation



The Present St. Johnsbury Plant of E. T. & H. K. Ide

water wheels and nearly all the machinery except the granite mill stones were made of wood by millwrights, all the work being done by hand on the spot. In this connection tradition says: "Like Chamberlin went up into Squire Harvey's pasture, split up a granite boulder and made a pair of four and a half feet mill stones in the month of November."

The stones have long done duty as door stones—one at E. T. Ide's old residence at Passumpsic, the other at the home of the life-long miller, Frank Mason.

The mill, mill house and splendid water power cost him \$1,200.

as well as his name, so in 1861, he donated his "Canada Gray" suit and took charge of the mill. In the summer of '61 the building and machinery were rebuilt and made fully up to date.

At the close of the war it was evident that times and methods had changed. Farmers no longer depended on their own wheat for flour. Farmers wives had tried "York Flour" found it whiter and the miller eventually got tired of saying that the native darker flour was sweeter and more nutritious than the white western stuff; so the supply of native grist wheat dwindled and nearly ceased.

The Business Incorporated
Soon afterwards the property of the firm including the name was taken over by a Vermont Corporation, "E. T. and H. K. Ide," with a capital of \$50,000. The stock is all owned by E. T. Ide and his immediate family, each grandchild being made a stockholder when named.

Old Mill Pond Developed
Meantime E. T. Ide purchased the